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ABSTRACT

The 21 papers and articles annotated for this bibliography are on the topics of: (1) participation of minority women in the Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women (AIAW) member institutions; (2) Title IX effects on intercollegiate athletics for minority women; (3) the first "Black Women in Sport Workshop"; (4) black women in sports at the "Big Ten" universities; (5) black women in golf; (6) problems facing female athletes at historically black colleges; (7) black women roller derby and roller game stars; (8) the attitude of black society toward female athletes; (9) the status of health and physical education for women in black colleges; (10) the attitude of black professional women athletes toward their role in society; (11) obstacles facing the black woman athlete; (12) a history of black female athletes; (13) attitudes of black women toward athletics; (14) socialization and education of young black girls; (15) participation of black women in Olympic track competition; (16) sex discrimination in high school sports; (17) issues involving women in intramural programs; (18) achievements of black women athletes in professional sports; (19) bibliographic citations specific to black women in sports; (20) the career of Dorothy Richey, first woman appointed director of athletics at a coeducational college; and (21) recruiting black women athletes. (JD)

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Draft April 1984

Annotated Bibliography on Minority Women in Athletics*

This bibliography is a working document prepared as a part of the Equality Center's project on Title IX and intercollegiate athletic programs. It was prepared because of the small amount of published information on minority women in athletics, especially intercollegiate athletics.

Many of the articles or publications are relatively old and, consequently, do not reflect recent developments in women's athletic programs or specific advances made under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (which prohibits sex discrimination in federally assisted education programs, including athletics). Title IX was enacted in 1972, its regulation detailing athletic provisions became effective in 1975, the adjustment period for Title IX compliance in college athletics expired in 1978, and the Title IX Intercollegiate Athletics Policy Interpretation was issued in 1979.

We have attempted to describe the contents and the findings of the entries accurately and ask that readers assist us by informing us of any factual problems that they identify or clarifications which are needed.

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Alexander, Alpha. "Status of Minority Women in the Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women." Master's Thesis, Temple University, 1978.

This thesis is a study of the extent of participation of minority women athletes, coaches and administrative personnel in women's athletics at AIAW member institutions. Findings are based on a 31 percent response rate on a questionnaire mailed to 705 institutions in 1976-77. Alexander hypothesized that: 1) The percentage of minority women athletes, athletic administrative personnel and coaches at AIAW institutions would be lower than the percentage of white women athletes, athletic administrative personnel and coaches at these institutions; 2) The percentage of minority women athletes at AIAW member institutions would be "significantly lower than the percentage of minority undergraduate women in higher education" and; 3) The percentage of minority women coaches at AIAW institutions would be "significantly lower than the percentage of minority women teachers in higher education." The author's findings supported the first two hypotheses and showed that there was a "great underrepresentation of minority women athletes, minority women [athletic]

*This annotated bibliography was prepared by Laura Janis.

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administrative personnel and minority women coaches" at AIAW institutions in 1976-77. The percentage of minority women coaches at AIAW institutions was not found to be significantly lower than the percentage of minority women teachers in higher education.

Alexander attributes a number of factors to this "underrepresentation," including but not limited to: lack of money for lessons and equipment, lack of role models, lack of affirmative action on the part of colleges and lack of "available opportunities in geographic areas of minority population concentration."

The author hopes that compilation of this kind of data will lead to enhanced minority recruitment, increased availability of information in job opportunities for minority women and sensitization of AIAW members to the needs of minority women.

Alston, Dorothy J. "Title IX and the Minority Women in Sport at Historically Black Institutions." Paper presented at the National Women in Sport Conference, Washington, D.C., January 4, 1980.

This article discusses how Title IX has affected intercollegiate athletics for minority women in minority institutions and the effect of the 1979 Title IX Intercollegiate Athletics Policy Interpretation on the future of intercollegiate athletics for minority women. The paper examines the reluctance of many male athletic directors and administrators in minority institutions to provide proportionate financial support for female athletic programs. The rationale behind this attitude is that "male sports are assumed to provide revenue for female sports." However, the author points out that there are few revenue-producing sports for men or women at minority institutions.

Areas briefly discussed include: scholarships (p. 2), coaching (p. 3), recruitment (p. 4) and facilities (p. 4). Possible solutions to aid in the amelioration of sex discrimination in athletic programs at minority institutions are offered, including training or retraining persons to coach and working with and providing "significant services to the athlete."

Association of American Colleges. Project on the Status and Education of Women. "Workshop Will Focus on Black Women in Sport." On Campus with Women 17 (June 1977): 8.

This article is a summary of the first Black Women in Sport workshop held at Temple University in 1976. The workshop resulted in the following actions: promotion of women's coaching workshops; development of future workshops on black women in sport;

and establishment of Black Interested Coaches (BIC), an organization of approximately 50 black coaches, physical education teachers, recreation leaders, and sports writers.

The article outlines the agenda of the second annual Black Women in Sport workshop held on August 8-12, 1977, at Temple University. This program focused on black women's contributions to sports, societal attitudes and expectations, their status and future and socioeconomic factors that influence performance and selection of sports.

Barclay, Vranda M. "Status of Black Women in Sports at the Big Ten Institutions." Paper presented at the National Black Women in Sport Conference, Washington, D.C., January 4, 1980.

This paper presents data on the participation of black women in sports at the "Big Ten" universities. The author conducted a survey to determine: 1) whether their participation reflects their proportion in the undergraduate population; 2) whether their percentage as recipients of athletic aid reflects their proportion as intercollegiate participants; and 3) whether they are clustered in certain sports as participants and as recipients of athletic based aid.

Results of the survey showed: 1) There was a relatively low percentage of black women athletes compared to their proportion in the undergraduate population; 2) Black women were receiving proportionately more athletic scholarships than their representation as intercollegiate athletic participants; 3) Black women were not recipients of athletic based aid in all of the sports offerings; and 4) There was a clustering of black women participants in track and field, basketball, and badminton that was in excess of their overall representation in the population of athletes. There was an underrepresentation of black women participants in swimming, tennis, cross country, golf, gymnastics, synchronized swimming, fencing and crew.

"Black Women in Golf." Sepia 19 (January 1970): 46-49.

This article is a brief discussion of black women golfers and attitudes of the public toward black participation in golf. The golfing careers of Renee Powell, one of only two black women in the world belonging to the Ladies' Professional Golfers Association in 1970, and Debbie Rhodes, daughter of the first black golfer to qualify for the PGA, are highlighted.

Although the number of blacks playing golf is increasing, the author finds that the game still has a "white image." For example, in 1970, there were no more than ten blacks with membership in the all male PGA and, only one black man in the United States owned a golf course.

Brown, Roscoe C., Jr. "Race, Sport, and Academe: Report of the Task Force on the Black Athlete." In A Report to the American Council on Education on an Inquiry into the Need For and Feasibility of a National Study of Intercollegiate Athletics, vol. II, Appendix D. Edited by George H. Hanford, Washington, D.C.: American Council on Education, 1974.

This study examined the problems facing the black female athlete at historically black colleges, newer predominately black institutions and predominately white colleges.

The task force found that the major problems surrounding the involvement of black women in athletics at historically black colleges included: limited financial support for athletes and athletic programs; a large percentage of women physical education teachers who lacked the background to coach competitive teams; lack of administrative support for competitive programs even where interest existed and; the influx of female students entering college with undeveloped physical skills who took a disproportionate amount of the instructor's time.

In historically white colleges, the number of black women participating in competitive sports was found to be limited. The task force found the percentage of black women physical education teachers to be relatively small. Other problems black women athletes encountered included: lack of role models; white coaches tending to associate black athletes with particular sports, especially track and field; discrimination in team selection; and administrative discrimination in hiring.

Ebert, Alan. "Women on Wheels." Essence 3 (April 1973): 49+

This article is a personal look into the lives of three black women Roller Derby and Roller Game stars: Darlene Anderson, the first black woman to break the color barrier in roller derby, Rosetta Sounders, an all-star "wonder on wheels", and Ruberta Mitchell, the highest paid black woman skater.

Particular emphasis is placed on why these women chose this route and the racial barriers they were confronted with along the way. The pressure to be a "superwoman" that the author describes as a barrier to the involvement of black women in sports is discussed. (p. 56) Each women's feelings about being a black skater and her confrontation with various forms of prejudice and exploitation are also described.

Edwards, Harry. The Sociology of Sport. Illinois: The Dorsey Press, 1973.

This discussion on black women athletes is located in a larger section on women athletes in chapter seven (see pp. 233-4). The discussion is based on the thesis that black society in America is more accepting than is white society of female athletes and offers them more opportunities to participate in sports. This acceptance is said to be attributed to the tradition in black society of a "significant proportion of women fulfilling instrumental responsibilities" (p. 233).

The larger focus of this section is on the values associated with the female role in America and the relationship between these values and sport (see pp. 227-233).

Ellis, A.W. "The Status of Health and Physical Education for Women in Negro Colleges and Universities." Journal of Negro Education 8 (January 1939): 58-63.

This article presents findings from a study to determine the history and present status of health and physical education for women in historically black colleges in 1939.

Data were obtained from a questionnaire sent to presidents of 67 institutions (52 or 77.67 percent of the institutions responded). College catalogues, bulletins, and site visits were also used to obtain information. Three types of institutions were surveyed: universities and liberal arts colleges, teachers' colleges and junior colleges. A tabulation of data and summary of findings are presented on pp. 59-62.

The author offered three conclusions: the status of health and physical education in black colleges and universities was low in 1939; only a few of the colleges had initiated a "well-planned" program of health and physical education for women; and the two-year physical education recreation course offered in most colleges was "not designed to meet the physical needs of individual students."

Suggestions for improving programs are offered (see p. 63).

Gerber, Ellen; Felshin, Jan; Berlin, Pearl; and Wyrick, Waneen. The American Woman in Sport. Reading, MA: Addison-Wesley Publishing Company, 1974.

A short section in chapter seven (pp. 267-8) presents commentary on Cynthia Fuchs Epstein's study of black professional women, Marie Hart's discussion of women in sport and E. Ferdun's commentary on black women athletes.

Epstein's study is described as suggesting "that [black professional women] have much less ambivalence about their roles and that double discrimination can work in reverse." Hart's study maintained that "In the black community, it seems, a woman can be strong and competent in sport and still not deny her womanliness." Ferdun suggested how "it is easiest to be a black female athlete and most difficult to be a white male dancer."

Green, Tina Sloan; Oglesby, Dr. Carole A.; Alexander, Dr. Alpha; and Franke, Nikki. Black Women in Sport. Reston, VA: American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation & Dance, 1981.

This book, specifically devoted to the black woman athlete, is a collection of monographs focusing on obstacles preventing greater participation of black women athletes, the extent to which these obstacles have prevented opportunities for black women to participate in sports, recommendations for increasing minority women's participation in sport, Nigerian women in sport and the future of black women in sport. All of the monographs show that there is a need to improve the situation of the black woman athlete and that economics will be one of the major factors affecting the future of black women in sport.

Three of the five chapters provide numerous bibliographic references (pp. 13, 60 & 66). Chapter 3 (pp. 49-60) presents data from two studies on minority women athletes and summarizes the presentations and discussions of the first black women in sport conference held at Temple University in 1976.

Henderson, Edwin Bancroft. The Negro in Sports. Washington D.C.: The Associated Publishers, Inc., 1949.

Chapter Thirteen, "Negro Girls in Sport", presents a history of black female athletes and offers a short explanation of why competition has been limited for black girls (see especially pp. 230-233 & 241-242). Various black female athletes are discussed including: tennis, basketball and swimming star, Anita Gant; tennis star, Lucy D. Stowe (see pp. 216-217 for a longer discussion on the achievements of Stowe and other black women tennis stars); swimming, basketball, hockey, track, tennis, and volleyball star, Inez Patterson, who broke the color barrier through participation in a variety of national athletic championship events; and Julia Towns Siler, a leading black woman golfer and winner of the 1934 National Women's golf championship. The accomplishments of the Tuskegee women's track and field team are also highlighted. In 1936, a national sports columnist described the team as the "most outstanding team in women's track" in the United States.

Houzer, Shirley, "Black Women in Athletics." The Physical Educator. 31 (December 1974): 208-209.

In this article, Houzer identifies and discusses a decline in interest and participation in sports by black women in 1969. The declining representation of black women in athletics is said to be evidenced at all levels: inter-school competition, coaching, officiating, administration, policy making and league work. Houzer concludes that the decline in interest and participation is intricately related to several social factors including: rewards and recognition, professional preparation and career opportunities.

Although black women have had successes in track and field, the author's 1969 study involving 265 black women students showed that the subjects "were generally negative in their expression of specific attitudes toward track and field." Instead, the subjects "indicated significant interest in tennis, badminton, swimming, gymnastics, square dance, soccer and archery." The high participation in track and field by black women is "probably more related to limited opportunities than to individual preferences." The article points out that few black women were actively involved in or preparing for coaching, officiating, and/or athletic administration. The author encourages black women to compete for leadership roles, join appropriate associations and get themselves on decision-making committees.

Lightfoot, Sara Lawrence. "Socialization and Education of Young Black Girls in School." Teachers College Record 78 (December 1976): 239-262.

This paper examines the myths and realities about black women and two potential sources for discovering the educational experience of young black girls in the classroom setting. The two sources are literature on the teacher's relationship with young girls in the classroom and the teacher's interaction with black boys and girls in the classroom. The problem of sex discrimination in schools is discussed in detail (pp. 243-49) as is racial discrimination in schools (pp. 249-52). The author suggests that methodological strategies have not allowed for a "careful and systematic analysis of the quality of life for boys and girls in the classroom." Methodological choices made by researchers are said to have allowed them "to ignore individual differences and differential socialization based on sex" (p. 249). The author claims that the theoretical models and methodological strategies used in the sex-role literature are also found in the studies on racial discrimination in the classroom.

The article also examines the literature focusing on the effect that a teacher's conscious and unconscious attitudes, values and expectations toward students can have on his/her teaching style, classroom behavior, and in turn, on a pupil's academic and social achievements and the social structure and patterns of interaction that develop in a classroom. The author claims that little direct attention has been focused on the experience of black girls in the classroom. Suggestions of methodological strategies for documenting these experiences are offered (pp. 259-61). The author encourages social scientists to examine the educational experiences of black girls in a variety of settings in addition to the classroom so as to better document their learning and growth (pp. 261-62).

Murphy, Margaret Diane. "The Involvement of Blacks in Women's Athletics in Member Institutions of the Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women." Ph.D. dissertation, Florida State University, 1980.

This dissertation is a study of the involvement of blacks in women's athletics in member institutions of the AIAW. Findings are based on 205 responses (out of 705) to a questionnaire sent to all AIAW member institutions in 1978-79.

The researcher was interested in determining: the percentage of black female athletes in badminton, basketball, cross country, golf, gymnastics, skiing, swimming and diving, synchronized swimming, field hockey, fast and slow pitch softball, track and field, tennis and volleyball; the percentage of black male and female head or assistant coaches; the percentage of increase in the number of black male and female coaches between 1973-74 and 1978-79; the percentage of black male and female women's athletic directors or coordinators as well as those with other athletic administrative duties; the percentage of athletic scholarships received by black female athletes in the sports listed above; the percentage of black female athletes playing specified (see p. 52) positions in basketball, swimming and diving, field hockey, fast and slow pitch softball, track and field and volleyball; and the percentage and increase in the number of sports offered at AIAW institutions between 1973-74 and 1978-79.

The study shows that black female athletes "occupied 8 percent of team positions on fourteen sports [see sports listed above] and [were] represented by a greater number on basketball teams and by a greater percentage on track and field squads." There were no black women participants in golf and skiing. Five percent of the assistant coaching positions and four percent of the head coaching positions were filled by black women. Black females made up five percent of other administrative personnel in women's athletic departments. Black female athletes received 11 percent of the total athletic scholarships awarded to all female athletes. Among black female athletes, the largest number of athletic scholarships were awarded to participants in basketball and track and field.

Overall, the study showed that the percentage of black female athletes was lower than the percentage of nonblack female athletes in badminton, basketball, cross country, field hockey, golf, gymnastics, skiing, softball, swimming and diving, synchronized swimming, volleyball, tennis and track and field. Black female athletes "represented 9 percent of the total female enrollment [black and nonblack] at AIAW institutions and black female athletes were 8 percent of the total number of athletes in these institutions."

Murphy's investigation of the number and percentage of playing positions by black female athletes in specific sports classified "by" and "within" race showed that 1) When classified within race, black female athletes were not equally represented among the various playing positions in softball, track and field, volleyball and field hockey. On the other hand, black females were fairly equally represented among the various playing positions in basketball and swimming. 2) When classified by race, the percentage of black female athletes was lower than nonblack female athletes in selected playing positions in basketball, swimming/diving, field hockey, softball, track and field and volleyball.

The researcher recommends follow-up studies and calls for further research "designed and conducted to provide physiological, psychological, and sociological data on the black female in sport."

"New Upsurge in Women's Track." Ebony 18 (June 1963): 115-117.

A short article about the increasing number of black American women track athletes who were contenders for the 1964 Tokyo Olympics. Thirty black women athletes are pictured, including Debbie Thompson (who beat Wilma Rudolph's 60-yard dash record), Tamy Davis (the country's youngest indoor and outdoor 50-yard low hurdles champ) and other stars in high jumping, hurdles, broad jump, relay, 880-yard run, and 50, 70 and 100-yard dash.

Although it was still too early to pick the 1964 U.S. Olympic team when this article was written, it is suggested that there would be an "ample sprinkling" of black women participants (p. 115). The article also presents the latest names and winning records of a large number of black women athletes in addition to pictures of some of their coaches.

Pennsylvania Commission for Women. Sex Discrimination in High School Sports: A Report and Recommendations from Public Hearings in Interscholastic Athletics for Girls in Pennsylvania. Pennsylvania Commission for Women, 1979.

This report contains a short section (p. 4-5) that is based on statements by Nikki Franke and is a subsection of a larger study on sex discrimination in interscholastic athletics. Franke attributes the low participation of minority women in sport to two major problems: absence of minority female athlete role models for young girls and "the stereotyping that many school districts allow to dictate athletic programs - the idea that minorities, especially blacks, are naturally gifted in some sports and totally inept in others." Franke maintains that this results in limiting the variety of sports offered and "fails to provide opportunities to minorities who could derive benefits from programs other than basketball or track."

Franke recommends a compilation of data on the number of minority women athletes, coaches and athletic administrators in order to "provide the necessary information to develop programs to encourage minority athletes" to participate in sports.

Peterson, James. "A Fragmatic Examination of the Issues Confronting Intramural Activity Programs for Women." In Women and Sport: Proceedings from an Inter-Disciplinary Symposium. Illinois: Western Illinois University, 1975.

This paper addresses the extent and nature of efforts to develop intramural programs for women in 1975, and discusses guidelines for possible administrative action. Four issues are explored, including ways to encourage minority group participation in intramural programs for women.

Peterson maintains that all-white participation is particularly pronounced in intramural programs and offers a number of recommendations to change this situation: conduct meetings between intramural personnel and members of the campus' minority groups, faculty and students; evaluate sport activities to ensure that they meet minority interests; adopt personnel practices that lead to employment of minority group individuals in administration of intramural programs; develop professional preparation programs for those interested in intramural administration; and achieve a "better balance" between intramurals and intercollegiate athletics. The author also recommends that intramural administrators "be held more accountable for their programs" and make an effort to "ascertain what the realizable objectives of the program are."

Rhoden, Bill. "A Fruitful Past But A Shakey Future." Ebony 32 (August 1977): 60-64.

This article provides a summary of the athletic achievements of black women athletes in tennis, running, basketball, golf, boxing, and football and commentary on the future of black women's participation in sport. Rhoden maintains that the accomplishments of Wilma Rudolph "erased all that had gone on before her, and made anything that followed anti-climatic." Rhoden describes the athletic accomplishments of black women athletes following those of Rudolph as having had "the perverse effect of perpetuating the 'All Blacks can run' stereotype, rather than leading them to national celebrity."

Rhoden states that women are often discouraged and excluded from participating in money-making sports. Rhoden indicates that this treatment, in turn, has perhaps led to an increase in the number of black women moving into "other less traditional [sport] areas where competition, not money is the bottom line." The athletic achievements of these women, including Marion Washington, the first director of women's athletics at the University of Kansas; Tina Sloan Green, the first black woman to compete on the U.S. National Lacrosse team in 1969; and Alice Henderson and Brenda Gamblin, the only two black players in 1977 in the six team Women's Professional Softball League are highlighted.

Sims, Janet L. The Progress of Afro-American Women: A Selected Bibliography and Resource Guide. Connecticut: Greenwood Press, 1980.

This selected bibliography contains eight pages of bibliographical citations specific to black women in sports, physical education, and recreation. Many of the entries refer to articles about specific black athletes. However, there are a number of useful articles that provide a sociological examination of black women in sport.

"Winning Her Point in a Man's Arena." Ebony 30 (June 1975): 46-52.

This article focuses on the career of Dorothy Richey, the first woman appointed director of athletics at a coeducational college, Chicago State University. Despite the understaffed athletic faculty and an athletic budget of $100,000, the school had its strongest performance in state competitions under Richey with four of the school's teams making the top three finishers in state competitions of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics.

The author states that "It is an irony, of sorts, in light of Ms. Richey's own career, that the policy-making problem that disturbs her the most has been women's liberation in athletic competition." Ms. Richey is reported to agree with the Title IX philosophy "in principle," but was "not so sure about its ultimate implementation" and worried about "impracticalities." Richey said "Women's athletics do not inspire the same interest, nor do they produce the kind of revenue that men's athletics do."

"Woman Recruiter Looks at Thrills, Spills of Position." Jet 46 (July 1974): 50.

This one-page article focuses on Gertrude Peoples, the only black female athletic recruiter in 1974. The article describes Peoples as being intent on not letting "the fact that she's a woman and black impede her progress." Although Peoples believes that "there are a lot of people - mostly white - who don't want to see me here," she still felt "very secure in [her] job."

The article points out problems that Peoples faced at the University of Washington, including the "constant battle" between her and some of the staff and the fact that she was not included on coaches' tours. Peoples considered herself somewhat responsible for increasing the black enrollment at the University of Washington to 11 percent.